

I CLAIM:

1. A method of automatically laying out a print job for printing on a printer having a plurality of available media sizes, wherein the print job includes a designated print area, defined by the designated length and width of the finished printed output, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. setting up the print job, the print job comprising data denoting the length and width of the finished output;
 - b. determining whether the print area is smaller than an available media size;
 - c. enabling the printer to print full-bleed;
 - d. determining whether the print area must be rotated to fit the print area on an available media size;
 - e. automatically selecting a media size from those available;
 - f. automatically calculating the distance and direction the print area must be shifted to locate the print area on the media in such a manner as to optimize the image location on the selected media;
 - g. printing the print job with the calculated image area shift and image area rotation.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the printed output is single-sided.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the printed output is double-sided.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the printer is capable of full-bleed printing on four edges of the media.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the printer is capable of full-bleed printing on three edges and requires a printer margin on one edge of the media, and the printer margin is automatically accounted for in determining the appropriate print area shift and print area rotation.
6. The method of claim 3 wherein the printer margin is on the leading edge.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - a. printing an instruction sheet accompanying the print job that comprises instructions for setting up a post-printing trimming device.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the trimming instructions are sent to a trimming device connected to the printer.

9. The method of claim 5 wherein the printed output is single-sided.
10. The method of claim 5 wherein the printed output is double sided.
11. A method of automatically laying out a print job for printing on a printer having a plurality of available media sizes, wherein the print job includes a designated print area, defined by the designated length and width of the finished printed output, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. setting up the print job, the print job comprising data denoting the length and width of the finished output;
 - b. determining whether the length of the print area is smaller than a leading edge of an available media size and that the width of the print area is smaller than a lateral edge of an available media size;
 - c. determining whether the length of the print area is smaller than the lateral edge of an available media size and whether the width of the print area is smaller than the trailing edge of an available media size;
 - d. enabling the printer to print full-bleed;
 - e. determining whether the print area must be rotated to fit the print area on an available media size;
 - f. automatically selecting a media size from the available media;
 - g. automatically calculating the distance and direction the print area must be shifted to locate the print area on the media in such a manner as to optimize the image location on the media;
 - h. printing the print job with the calculated image area shift and image area rotation.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein the printer is capable of full-bleed printing on four edges of the media.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein the printer is capable of full-bleed printing on three edges and requires a printer margin on one edge of the media, and the printer margin is automatically accounted for in determining the appropriate print area shift and print area rotation.
14. The method of claim 13 wherein the printer margin is on the leading edge.
15. The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

- a. printing an instruction sheet accompanying the print job that comprises instructions for setting up a post-printing trimming device.
16. The method of claim 11, wherein the trimming instructions are sent to a trimming device connected to the printer.